

Bawtry Heritage Group

Notes of meeting on Tuesday 14th November 2023

1 Present/Apologies

Present – John Linsley, Peter Holland, Mick Maguire, David Kirkham

Apologies – Tony Jones

2 Matters arising from 22nd August meeting

2-4 Doncaster & District Heritage Association – Local History Fair

MM, PH & TJ attended. Very positive experience – there was very substantial interest in our website & papers. Recommended attend again next year.

3 Grant applications - update

3.1 Garfield Weston - Applied for £3k - £1k awarded; for display panels project.

3.2 Skinners Charity Foundation – Applied for £1k for same project; nothing heard.

4 Website

Agreed need to keep steady flow of material for news & events section of website. DK to inform Keith (website) to accept any item from any trustee. May be time to obtain metrics re website visitation.

We have Bawtry census on the site – more family history material might be popular. Ideally parish records – but copyright & licensing problems. Trade directories? MM has obtained details of burials at St Nicholas; will try to make digital copy & pass to DK for website. Doug Cartwright & George Scott produced details of burials in the Council cemetery – DK try to obtain. DK could write a short Bawtry-oriented guide for researchers.

PH has received a paper about one of the Morton family of Bawtry, written by a member of Tickhill History Society. Should we ask her permission to put it on our site? MM/JL to read same. Should we invite her to join BHG?

9 South Yorkshire Heritage List

MM has nominated the shrine site.

2-7 Bawtry Arts Festival – Mayflower School

MM to make offer to the school of BHG assisting them to develop local history teaching material relevant to National Curriculum Key Stage 2/3. It's in our interests to engage with children!

6 RAF Bawtry

JL reported a negative response from Stewart Cresswell. DK to produce a paper.

10 Presentations to other groups

Misson WI on Wednesday 24th Jan 20-24; DK & JL to present illustrated general account of Bawtry's history & a bit about BHG.

11.1 Children's Trail Material

Picture quiz etc; for website. Still with TJ.

11.2 Window dressing

Still lots of empty premises in Bawtry? Resume window dressing? DK to bring material to next meeting. The Romans in Bawtry certainly needs amending.

11.3 Horrid Histories

With JL; he has two. Need a few more before we put them on the website.

3 Hunting for Bawtry's Roman Past

Considered proposals in a paper from MM. Agreed with same. Concluded we should request a meeting with Zac Nellist of South Yorkshire Archaeology to try to progress our ambitions.

4 AOB

4.1 Bawtry & the Great North Road

Pending with JL. Looks like we all have some relevant material – send to him.

4.2 Bawtry & coaching

MM has completed a draft which he will circulate. He has also considered the layout/content for a display panel, which ought to be sited in the Courtyard, highlighting the prominence of the Swan as a coaching inn.

4.3 Pilgrim Fathers IN Bawtry

Although not described as such in the literature, PH feels Bawtry was central to the Pilgrim Father's phenomenon. They met in Bawtry & probably preached here. He is working up an account.

4.4 Pilgrim Fathers in America

PH reported a query from Rupert Atkinson – in the context of Bawtry Festival, do we have any links with/knowledge of heritage groups in the US associated with the early English settlements there. No – but would RA like to join BHG?

4.5 Bawtry Festival

Bawtry Arts Festival is becoming simply Bawtry Festival in the future. To run 17th to 23rd June 2024. Agreed BHG would offer similar activities as previous.

4.6 Gift Aid

JH has identified total of £581 worth of £25 or more contributions. DK to make application to HMRC.

4.7 Oral History project

Tony Jones continuing to work on this. He is likely to move out of Bawtry. Might he continue to be a BHG member? It is felt we will still be able to use the Phoenix for big meetings/presentations – arrange same through Liz Atkinson – JL has contact details.

5 Next meeting

Tuesday 19th December; 18.30; New Hall.